SR 743/2012-13

SCHOOL at the LEGISLATURE

Putting Life into Learning

Report Card 2011-12

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

SPEAKER'S MESSAGE

For more than a decade now Grade 6 students from across Alberta have enjoyed the benefit of learning about legislation and citizenship first-hand through the School at the Legislature program (SATL). Since its inception in 2000 the program has evolved and grown, and so too has its participation. The past two years we've seen involvement by 35 classes, our highest enrolment ever.

Boasting 831 students and 346 volunteers, this past school year was one of our most successful, and it is important to share the credit for this success with our generous partners: CTV Two Alberta, Priority Printing Ltd., CKUA Radio Network and Rotary International. Without their support our programming would not be possible.

I would also like to acknowledge the important participation of Alberta's teachers. As a teacher-driven educational opportunity SATL provides a flexible framework to be shaped and moulded by the instructor. This partnership between educator and the program ignites creativity, encourages innovation and creates a truly unique experience for each class.

continue

The Legislative Assembly of Alberta prides itself on exceptional public programming and outreach. Our commitment to the citizens of this province may begin with the legislator, but it carries through to the staff and officers of the legislative community as well. Currently over 26 offices participate in the SATL program.

Through the SATL we are providing avenues through which students and teachers are inspired to discover the parliamentary system in Alberta.

The Honourable Gene Zwozdesky
MLA, Edmonton-Mill Creek
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

THE PROGRAM

THE PROGRAM

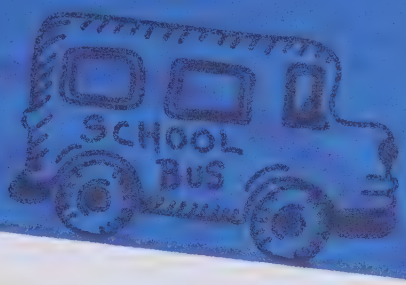
The School at the Legislature (SATL) program is designed to give Grade 6 teachers from across the province an opportunity to transport their classroom to the Alberta Legislature for an entire week. Through unique educational experiences, including interview sessions with Officers of the Assembly and staff who work behind the scenes, students learn how the Legislative Assembly functions. Students also have the opportunity to not only capture their MLAs in action but meet them as well.

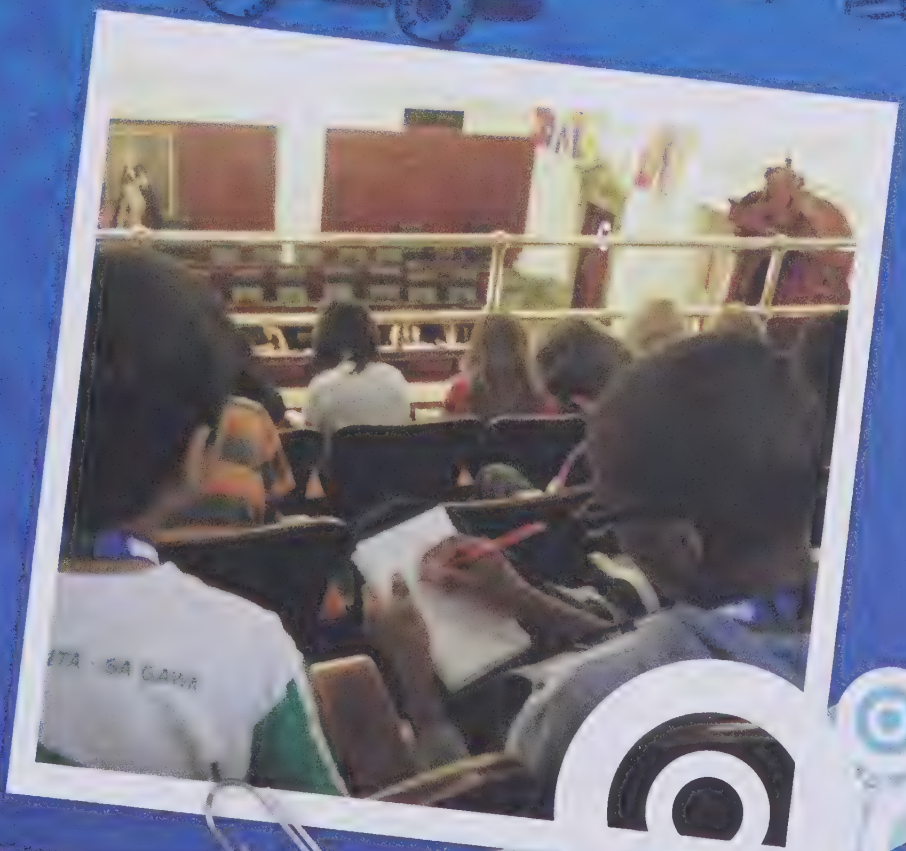
The week begins with a tour of the Legislature Building, providing the basis for learning about the work and role of the Legislative Assembly. Using the site as a catalyst, students set sail on a journey of discovery, spending time in the Legislature Chamber, the office of the Lieutenant Governor, the Premier's office, the "magic spot" and beyond. Along the way they can participate in parliamentary debates, learn the history of the majestic Legislature Building with its towering pillars and beaux arts architectural style and explore the lush parkland while discovering a number of historic and culturally significant monuments on the grounds.

Face-to-face interaction is an integral part of the SATL experience. During their week stay students create meaningful connections through interviews with MLAs and Legislative Assembly staff, learning the roles and responsibilities of the people that comprise the legislative community. Students become familiar with the names and faces they learn about and leave the program with a deeper understanding of parliament, provincial ownership and citizenship.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

OUR VISION





OUR VISION

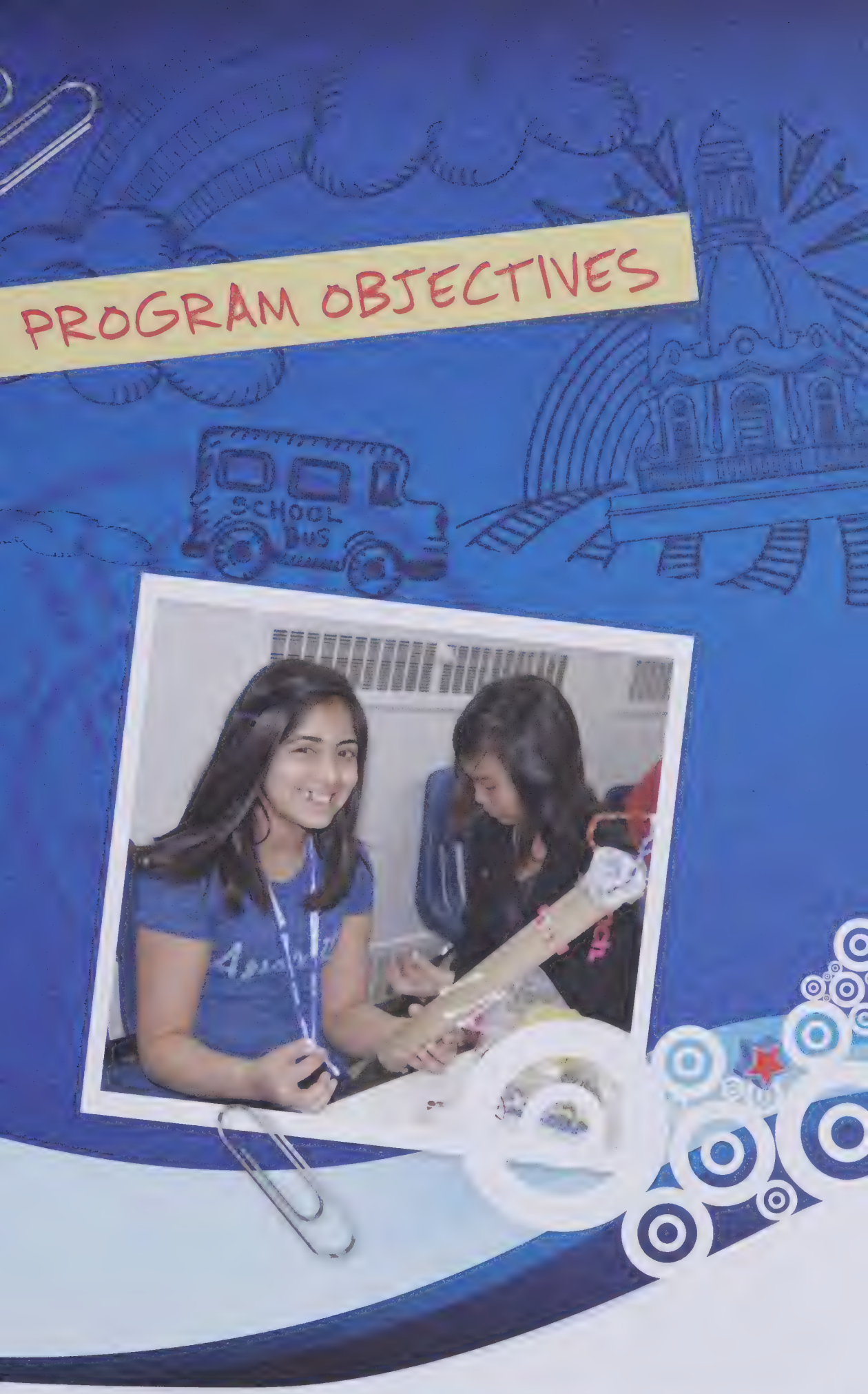
To be a recognized leader in providing the best in parliamentary educational experience for students across Alberta.

"Excellent visual learning experience. Students learn about the government in school then see it in action. Excellent opportunity for the students. I have learned lots; a better appreciation of our government"

Teacher, Eleanor Hall School

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

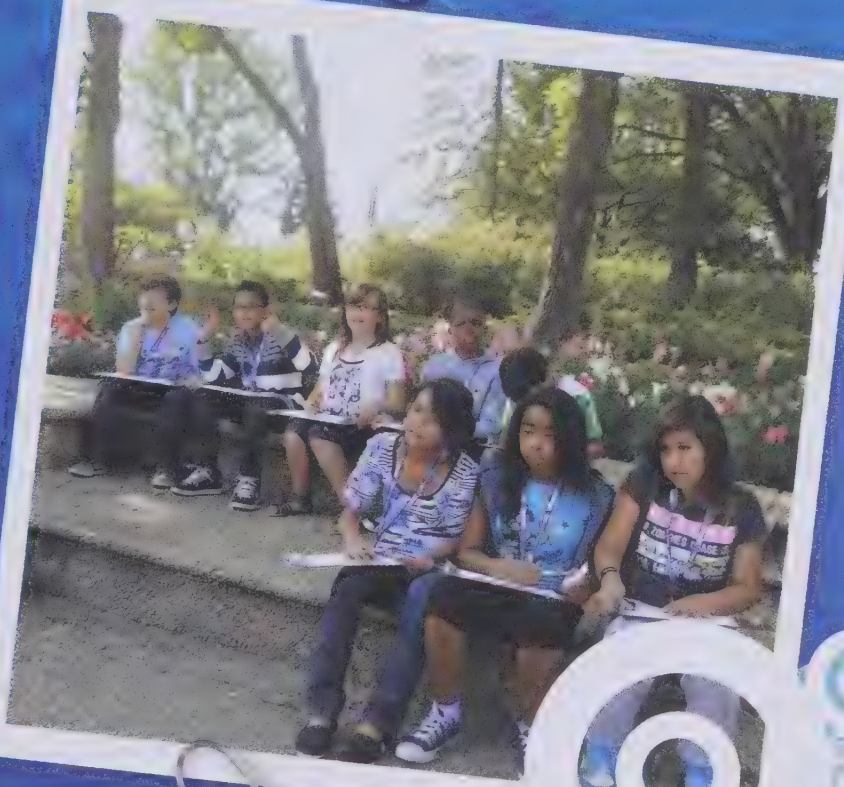
PROGRAM OBJECTIVES



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Provide students with a memorable and fun-filled learning experience of Alberta's parliamentary democratic process
- Facilitate interdisciplinary learning experiences at the Legislature which complement the Alberta curriculum
- Convey to the educational community and the public that the Legislature and the parliamentary process belong to them
- Provide Members of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Assembly staff an opportunity to participate in the learning experience of children

TOPICS AND ACTIVITIES



TOPICS AND ACTIVITIES

"An effective and well-rounded education gives individuals very different but interrelated views of the world. Well-designed inquiry learning produces knowledge formation that can be widely applied. Inquiry is not so much seeking the right answer -- because often there is none -- but rather seeking appropriate resolutions to questions and issues. For educators, inquiry implies emphasis on the development of inquiry skills and the nurturing of inquiring attitudes or habits of mind that will enable individuals to continue the quest for knowledge throughout life."

*Concept to Classroom
www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/inquiry/index.html

During the SATL week students enjoy the freedom to participate in many activities that cultivate their curiosity. Imagine teaching students about parliament and government in the legislative Chamber as MLAs participate in a parliamentary debate. Students can generate questions that explore how justice, equality, freedom and representation are present in the decisions and day-to-day work of the people they interview. Students observe and reflect in their journals on how these principles of democracy are demonstrated at the Legislature and by extension in their classrooms. They consider what makes Alberta a democracy and how they as young Albertans can participate as responsible citizens.

"Everything was new and interesting because I am new in Canada and I think this was a good way to learn about government."

Student, Brookside School

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

LET'S TALK

LET'S TALK

Key to the program's success is the ever-important involvement by the legislative community. Through presentations, interview sessions and the sharing of everyday experiences these groups/presenters provide engaging sessions to help students learn about everyday experiences. These informative presentations contribute to a holistic understanding of the democratic system.

We thank the following offices for offering their time to provide these presentations.

- The Speaker's Office
- The Clerk of the Assembly
- The Clerk Assistant/Director of House Services
- Clerk of Journals/Table Research
- Parliamentary Counsel
- Financial Management/Administrative Services
- Alberta Hansard
- Legislature Library
- Human Resource Services
- Information Technology Services
- Sergeant-at-Arms
- Visitor Services
- Security Operations

- The Lieutenant Governor's Office
- The Premier's Office
- Government Members
- Liberal Opposition Members
- Wildrose Opposition Members
- New Democrat Opposition Members
- Independent Members
- Department of Infrastructure
- Press Offices
- Chief Electoral Officer
- Ombudsman
- Office of the Auditor General
- Ethics Commissioner
- Information and Privacy Commissioner

"The School at the Legislature program has always strived to sustain a truly incredible learning atmosphere for the students. I hope to see the School at the Legislature continue and succeed with this positive and successful program."

Ron LaFranchise, horticulturist & SATL Volunteer
Retired Operations Supervisor of the Legislature Grounds

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

YEAR IN REVIEW

YEAR IN REVIEW

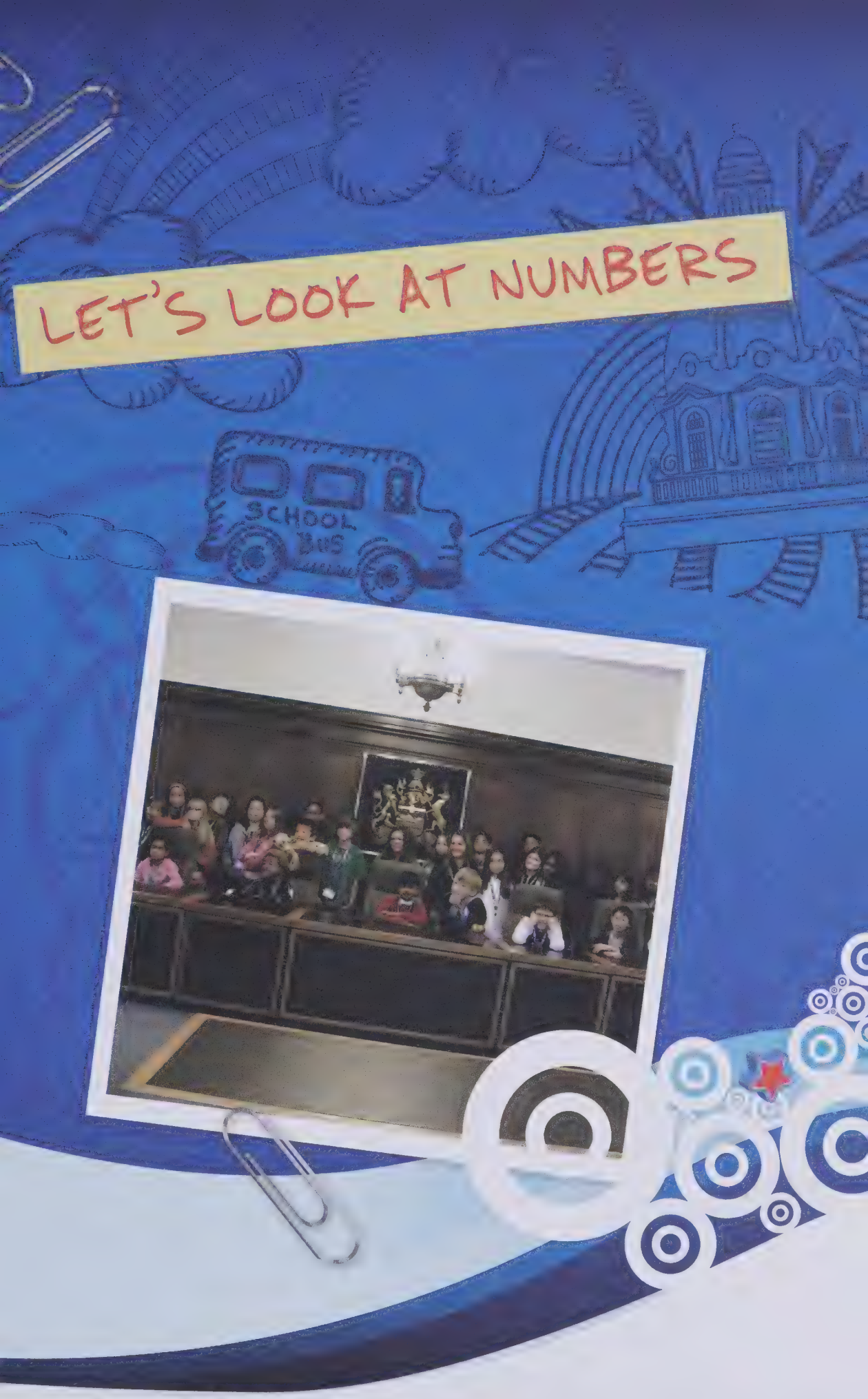
The 2011-12 school year brought 35 classes to the SATL program, with 1,214 teachers and volunteers from all across the province given the opportunity to experience a real-world view of the institution of parliament and the people behind today's headlines.

The Legislature community welcomed these classes with dynamic sessions, providing students with an opportunity to experience the legislative process and citizenship first-hand. Students, teachers and volunteers became active observers and participants while the Legislature community enjoyed the connection with Alberta youth., their teachers and their parent volunteers.

"I have learned more in the last 4 days than what I knew in the last 30 years. Very educational."

Parent, H.A. Kostash School

LET'S LOOK AT NUMBERS



LET'S LOOK AT NUMBERS

2011-12 Enrolment

School	Class Numbers	Student Numbers	Area
Alder Flats Elementary	1	19	Alder Flats
Brookside School	2	40	Edmonton
Clara Tyner School	1	25	Edmonton
Delton School	1	19	Edmonton
École Muriel Martin	1	35	St. Albert
Eleanor Hall School	1	25	Clyde
Forest Heights	1	30	Edmonton
George Luck School	2	57	Edmonton
George P. Nicholson	1	22	Edmonton
Glenora School	1	26	Edmonton
H.A. Kostash	1	24	Smoky Lake
Horse Hill School	1	22	Edmonton
Jackson Heights School	1	28	Edmonton
Johnny Bright School	1	29	Edmonton
Kameyosek School	1	27	Edmonton
Malmo Elementary	1	23	Edmonton
Mother Teresa School	1	18	Edmonton
Mundare School	1	22	Mundare
Rideau Park School	1	22	Edmonton
Ridgeview Central	2	44	La Crete
St. Alphonsus School	1	22	Edmonton
St. Angela School	3	65	Edmonton
St. Gerard School	1	28	Edmonton
St. Stanislaus School	2	40	Edmonton
St. Theresa School	1	16	Wabasca
Westbrook School	3	76	Edmonton
Windsor Park School	1	27	Edmonton
Total	35	831	

2011-12 Program Budget

	2011-12 Projected	2011-12 Actual
Revenue		
Legislative Assembly of Alberta	*102,000	31,485.91
Program Fees	(18,000)	(19,800.00)
Total	$84,000	$11,685.91
Expenses		
Travel	6,000	1,649.82
Postage and Freight	0	40
Other Labour and Services	69,000	23,673.06
Hosting	2,000	714.45
Office Administration/Supplies	10,000	113.58
Advertising	15,000	5,295
Revenue - Program Fees	(18,000)	(19,800.00)
Total	$84,000	$11,685.91

Notes:

- Fiscal year April 1, 2011, to March 31, 2012
- SATL program year runs September 2010 to June 2011

* Projected expenses to accommodate expenses for out of town school travel

Sponsors:

- Foothills sponsor
- Foothills sponsor
- Prairie sponsor
- In-Kind sponsor

Sponsorship Levels

Mountain	$25,000 +
Foothills	$10,000 to $25,000
Prairie	$5,000 to $10,000
In-Kind	

A+

GETTING THE WORD OUT

GETTING THE WORD OUT

Workshops and orientation sessions provide opportunities for teachers to meet the LAO staff and acquaint themselves with the program and the site. More importantly, these workshops help foster a network among fellow educators. They are an invaluable source of information that facilitates the sharing and development of ideas, resources and teaching methods that help make the SATL week a rich and rewarding experience.

Our goal is the continued development of resources for teachers and students in Alberta. We also want to continue to provide an avenue for them to create, inquire and discover the parliamentary process from different perspectives. Educational programs and resource materials are distributed to the education community via many avenues:

- the Assembly website, www.assembly.ab.ca
- mail-outs
- workshops
- seminars
- advertisements in community newspapers, ATA newsletters, radio and TV
- exhibit booths at the following teachers' conventions and conferences:
    - Central Alberta Teachers' Convention
    - Greater Edmonton Teachers' Convention
    - North East Teachers' Convention
    - North Central Teachers' Convention
    - ATA Social Studies Provincial Conference

CONTINUING TO SPREAD THE WORD

CONTINUING TO SPREAD THE WORD

What is inquiry-based learning?

"Inquiry is defined as a seeking for truth, information, or knowledge; seeking information by questioning."

(Concept to Classroom)
www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/inquiry/index.html

Since its inception in Calgary in the 1990s the inquiry-based learning model has grown into an international movement from Newfoundland to Singapore. It is known as Inquiring Minds in Edmonton, in Calgary as Open Minds/ Campus Calgary and various monikers in places beyond. Together these diverse groups share the common vision of supporting student learning beyond the walls of the traditional classroom. Edmonton hosts the following Inquiring Minds programs:

- City Hall School
- Edmonton Oilers ICE School
- Fort Edmonton Park
- Green School at Devonian Botanic Garden
- John Walter Museum School
- Jubilee Auditorium School
- Suncor Zoo School
- Royal Alberta Museum School
- University of Alberta U School
- School at the Legislature

Together we provide teachers' workshops with an overview of each site, explaining how these "new classrooms" engage in learner-led, hands-on, inquiry-based learning and exploration through tours, journaling and a host of creative activities.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

OUR SPONSORS

OUR SPONSORS

We express our sincere appreciation for the support we receive from our community partners: Priority Printing Ltd., CTV Two, CKUA Radio Network and the Rotary Club of Edmonton. These partners provide a wide spectrum of sponsorship, which includes print and promotional material production, television and radio advertisements as well as funding to assist classes attending SATL. With this support we are able to provide an innovative educational experience for many Alberta students.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

SUMMARY

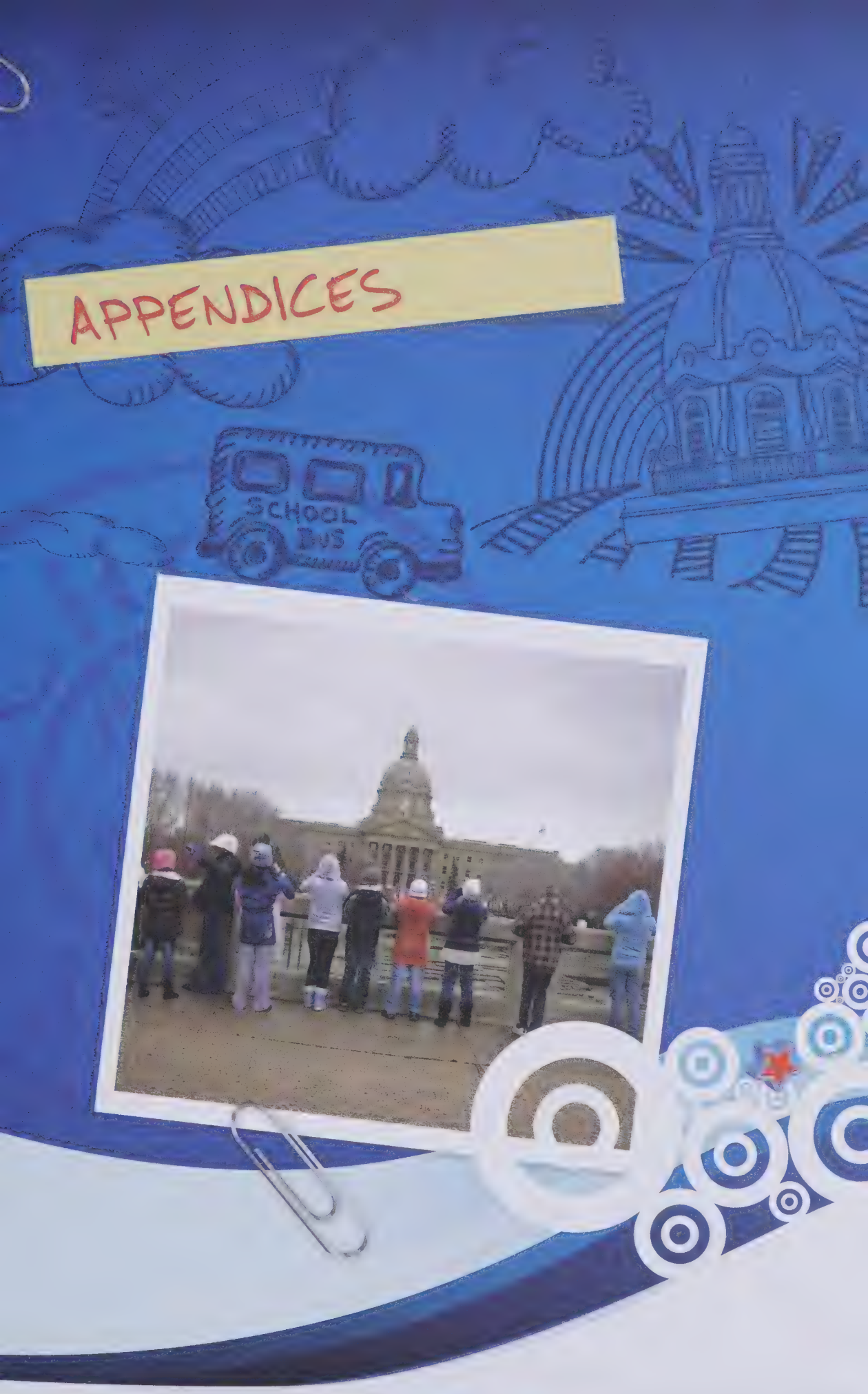
SUMMARY

Many people are disengaged from politics through a lack of understanding or interest. We feel that the SATL program inspires students to observe, reflect and better understand our political process. Energy, passion and enthusiasm are instilled in the students and taken home for dinner table discussion. This is evident through the many comments received from teachers and parents alike.

"I feel better informed and actually am now a willing participant to take the time to understand the need to vote instead of feeling what difference is it going to make anyway. I feel more responsibility to be part of political events."

Parent, Mundare School

APPENDICES



APPENDIX A
TEACHER, PARENT AND STUDENT COMMENTS:

"We all really loved the week...it was a terrific experience."

Teacher, Malmo Elementary

"I think SATL is a great thing. Kids can learn lots about our government."

Student, Forest Heights

"This was the best field trip in the world. I want to come here every day of my life."

Student, Jackson Heights School

"I really appreciated SATL and they should make it so more schools can experience it."

Student, Delton School

"Being a recent migrant to Alberta, it was very helpful for my child to physically experience (not just reading it in a book) the way our provincial legislature operates."

Parent, H.A. Kostash School

"...To see classroom teaching/material come to life at the Legislature will definitely help the children remember what they learn in the classroom."

Parent, Ridgeview Central School

PRIORITY PRINTING LTD.

November 15th, 2012

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Honourable Gene Zwordesky
Room 325 Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your staff, on the very successful and important "School at the Leg" program, for the benefit of Alberta's Grade 6 schoolchildren.

The growth and the success of any venture such as this is largely dependent on the strong and capable people that make it run. I would also like to congratulate Diana Panizzon for her contributions in making the SATL the success that it is. Diana is a pleasure to work with and always keeps us informed of the program's progress.

It is our hope that this very worthy teaching tool is part of the Legislative Assembly Office's educational initiatives for many years to come. And to that, Priority Printing is very proud to be associated with and sponsor the "School at the Leg" program.

Again, my congratulations and I sincerely wish you, your staff, and the "School at the Leg" program all the best in the future.

Sincerely,

Tim Downey
President

cc: Diana Panizzon

FSC

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CANADA'S OLYMPIC NETWORK

November 14, 2012

The Honourable Gene Zwozdesky
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
325 Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

Dear Mr. ~~Speaker~~: Gene

You need no introduction to the School at the Legislature program or its accomplishments. CTV is proud to have supported classes from the following communities who might not otherwise have been able to attend.

Airdrie	Duffield	Kikino	Rolling Hills
Andrew	Grande Cache	La Crete	Spruce Grove
Anzac	Grimshaw	Medicine Hat	Uncas
Ardmore	Hays	Mundare	Wabasca
Cadotte Lake	Killam	Redcliff	Whitecourt
Calgary			

This past year we were able to provide air time value to promote School at the Legislature and $4,000 in cash to support students from St. Theresa School in Wabasca so they could attend the SATL program.

Through our sponsorship of programs like School at the Legislature, through our production and broadcast of relevant and engaging programming like *Alberta Primetime* and through our broadcast of Question Period CTV Two remains committed to the enhancement of the social, economic and political framework of our province.

We owe our thanks again to Diana Panizzon and the staff of Visitor Services for making our partnership a thoroughly enjoyable one.

Regards,

Lloyd Lewis
VP and General Manager
CTV Edmonton and CTV Two Alberta
Cc: Diana Panizzon, Visitor Services
Eric Rice, CTV Two

18520 Stony Plain Road, Edmonton, AB T5S 1A8
Phone 780 483-3311 www.ctv.ca

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Nov. 27, 2012

Diana Panizzon
Educational Programs Coordinator
Visitor Services
Legislative Assembly of Alberta

Dear Diana,

On behalf of everyone at the CKUA Radio Network, I offer hearty congratulations on the School at the Legislature's 13th year.

Our News Director, Ian Gray, continues to enjoy sharing time and insights into the job of a political journalist with the School at the Legislature's students. Ian has related that his encounters with your classes leave him with a feeling of energy, that he's impressed with the enthusiastic responses from the kids, and his involvements are often high points in a sometimes difficult job of political journalism.

SATL's commitment to introducing the principles and practices of an active democracy to young Albertans is valuable, helping ensure that the next generation of political participants gains an early appreciation of Alberta's political process.

CKUA and SATL share similar mandates; we both strive to inform, educate and entertain our audiences. It's because of this linkage that CKUA continues to be a proud media sponsor of School at the Legislature.

Congratulations on another successful year, and here's to many more years of partnership!

Katrina Ingram
Chief Operating Officer
CKUA Radio Network

4th floor, 10526 Jasper Ave. **Edmonton** Alberta T5J 1Z7 T. 780.428.7595 F. 780.428.7624
c/o Epcor Centre, 205 8th Ave. S.E. **Calgary** Alberta T2G 0K9 T. 403.266.5566 F. 403.262.3645
www.ckua.com

Diana Panizzon
Educational Programs Director
Legislative Assembly of Alberta

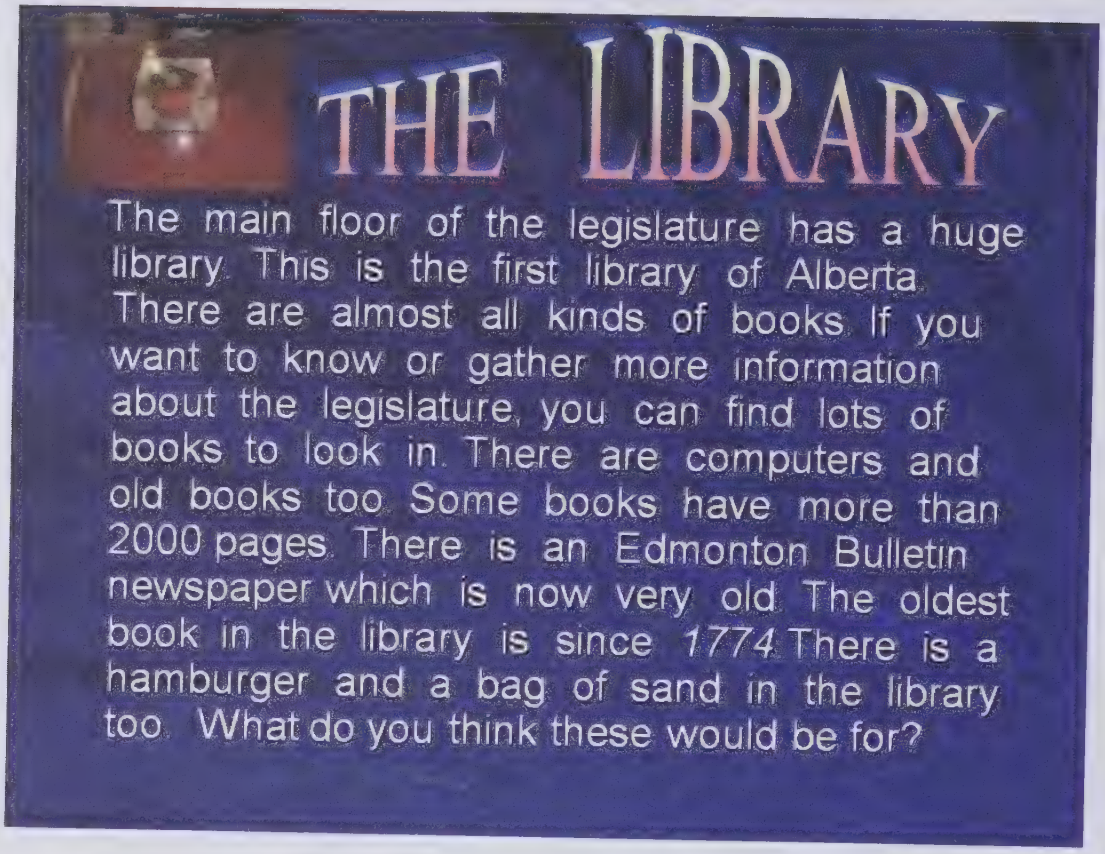
RE: School at the Legislature

It was with great pleasure that the Rotary Club of Edmonton supports the School at the Legislature program. It is an onsite learning experience that gives an opportunity for youth to learn how our democratic process works and how they as individuals and collectively have an impact in bettering our society.

I have seen firsthand the enthusiasm of students and teachers to learn at the Legislature and immerse themselves in the traditions and principles that as Albertans and Canadians we live by.

Our mandate at the Rotary Club of Edmonton is to support the inner city community needs and we are proud of our commitment to sponsor classes from inner city Edmonton for the upcoming year.

Dan Matthys
Member, Youth Services Committee
The Rotary Club of Edmonton



Above is a slide from a PowerPoint presentation created to summarize what was learned by one class during the weeklong program.

The legislature week.

Events:The queens 60th anniversary. Diamond jubilee.

Articles by: john orozco — Delton School

Shocking Secrets in Premiers Office.

Secret doors in premier's office some lead to a fridge and a bathroom. she also went all over the world and brought knick knacks back with her to put in her office.
The premier's middle name is Marrilla so her full name is Allison Marrilla Redford.
Allison has a daughter whom she loves very much. The 10 lucky people who got to see the premiers office were very surprised and amazed. The secret doors were all supposed to look like a wall similar to this picture. (top). The 3 secret doors had to be pushed to open from the outside and pulled from the inside it was like a everyday door you might see in a bathroom or in a bedroom. She also has an office worker outside with her own office! Mrs. auger got to sit in the premiers seat while the picture was being taken while the others were quietly standing with they're mouths smiling "The premiers office had lot's of cool things." said local 11 year old Thomas Grettum.

Throughout the week:
Day 1:exploring the legislature.
Day 2:tour of the grounds, mock ledge
Day 3:watched session.
Day 4:6 kids went to interview the lieutenant governor.
Last Day; media presentation

Lieutenant Governor Shows Up!

On Tuesday January 7th 10:15 to 11:15 Grade 6 students from Mrs. Haddads room came to the mock legislature room and learned about how the a assembly really works and how it feels to be in a discussion with all the harsh comebacks and all the laughing.
With all the commotion over bill 997 "the gym act" reporters couldn't hear anything!
John was the lieutenant governor and Zak was the sergeant at arms. Tyler was the clerk's assistant. Styles was the clerk. Thomas was an opposition member against Helen who was a government member. Madison was a camera girl and there were many, many more roles. The mock legislature teaches us what happens in session and how hard our MLA's are working to keep us happy with the things we complain about.

The legislature home of School At The Ledge.

The lieutenant governor d Honorable Donald S Ethell.

The Most Honorable Man in Legislature!

6 kids interviewed one of the most important person in the legislature the lieutenant governor Donald S Ethell in his huge office . His big office actually had furniture in it like couches, chairs and cabinets
Some good questions were asked like "how long have you worked here?" and his honor had an answer "about 2 years." and "when did the role of the lieutenant governor start?" asked Thomas grettum 11 year old that boy from Mrs.. haddad's class.

Surprising session

Session was monstrous there were people shouting at each other. Talking about bills and electricity.
They were also arguing, some people even laughed at the premier! It's very surprising.
Raj Sherman from opposition vs. Allison Redford from government two leader's and lot's of arguments . There were a lot came backs and laughing at each other. Surprisingly MLA's did not mind them being video taped because they knew that it was for a good purpose.

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Above is another creative example of how a class summarized what was learned during their time in the program.

SCHOOL at the LEGISLATURE

Putting Life into Learning

WE THANK OUR SPONSORS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SATL

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